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REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING

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Glenn Hauser

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Listener Insights On Programming

A L B A N I A (Fred McClenaghan, April DX Ontario "Listeners' Corner") Some observations of the Home Service in Albanian on 5057 kHz, audible between 0455 and 0600 GMT: Weekdays: 0455 -0500 exotic Albanian folk music. 0500-0515, News. 0515-0530, the best morning exercise program on SW today. 0530-0545, modern Albanian pop music. 0545-0600, a variety of programs, such as radio plays. Sat & Sun: 0530-0545 News; 0545-0600, children's music.

A R G E N T I N A (Will Sibus, NY) Has anyone ever received 'so much as a boo' (as Ms. Lévesque puts it) from RAE? I tried all last year and maybe after the next revolution, I might try again. This was on 11708 ± 2 or 3, sometimes, once in a while, with 10% modulation. Maybe my name isn't Spanish, but even though it's 'kraut' and they got quite a few of the WW II leftovers, they ought to say 'boo'!!

gh: I suspect they aren't running full 100 kW power; look for them at least when solar disturbances attenuate reception from Europe. When will they catch on that by putting maybe a 10 kW transmitter on the wide-open 25 MHz band, they could reach North America much of the time with a good signal and no interference? If you check the 20-31 MHz region for ham, CB, and utility stations, you'll find these north-south paths are frequently open. But not a single South American broadcaster uses the 13 or 11 meter bands! Despite Colombia's fantastic registration on 25750. However, HCJB plans to activate 21490 to Europe around June 15, at 1500-2200 GMT, including English at 1630-1800 and 1900-2030. But, I digress...

A U S T R A L I A (Will Sibus, NY) R. Australia is on my list for 1200 Z news every morning on 9580. Excellent coverage of Far East and world news. Specially events happening right now, and we get the censored news 1 to 2 days later, if at all. For instance, the number of earthquakes, refugees fleeing Cambodia, New Zealand fishing, weather, and the Queen's reception (polite but cool), etc.

(Edwin Southwell, UK, DSWCI May Shortwave News) Worth listening to on Sundays at 0810 & 1610 is Report from Asia, a good source of news of events taking place in Asia, especially as reception of R. Japan is unreliable. On Saturdays at 0700-0900 they have a programme of songs about the old days. The presentation of these programmes is good.

gh: Report from Asia is also on Sundays at 1210 and 2010. Dennis Gibbons Sings the folk music and stories of Australia is on Sats at 0110, 0710, 1310, 1910. A few other current programs: World of Cooking with listeners' favourite recipes, Tue 1340, 1940, Wed 0040, 0740. Indian Film Music, Wed 0130, 1533. Australian Arts & Entertainment, Fri 2240, Sat 0440, 1640. Jazz Australia, Sats 0033, 0633, 1833. The Week Here & There, Mary Lou Jelbart looking at events which caught her eye in the Australian press--could it be like Larry Wayne's Germany This Week on DW?--Sat 2040, Sun 0240, 0840, 1440. Melbourne Showband, Sun 0110, 0710, 1310, 1910. R. Australia's full English frequency schedule, including those "Pacific" beams that are the same as to North America, appears in the June NASWA Listeners Notebook. Now, aren't you sorry if you dropped out of NASWA?

(Rob Harrington, CO) Their news broadcasts are the only reason I tune them in. But their frequencies in the evening are so poor that it usually is impossible to hear them. The 19m frequency is useless about 90% of the time. 16m comes in fairly most of the time. RA needs a new frequency to USA in the evening--how about 25m?

gh: How many good frequencies do we need? 17795 is currently doing quite well. As I've said before, 25m just wouldn't make it in our evenings--too much absorption at lower frequencies.

A U S T R I A (Gerry Bishop, PA) For those who don't yet know it, ORF now has a clear shot at North America on 6155, since WYFR is now using 5985 for English to the Americas. Reception has been fair to good as of May 7, and the programming is, as other contributors have mentioned, above par. I haven't yet had the opportunity to check out "SW Panorama" but I'm almost sure that it is of the same quality as other ORF features, which is nothing short of excellent.

(Jonathan Marks, England) The "Panorama" repeat to NAm comes thanks to persuasive letters from North American listeners. Comments on the new GMT Sun airing at 0300-0315 on 6155 and 9770 are essential if this new slot to North America is to be a regular one. Coming up in the summer I should have features on Thailand, Anarchy DJs (Are DJs getting worse?), Fiji and Pirate Radio. Each will include studio tape, a policy which I personally have tried to introduce. Station spotlights are otherwise so dull if a straightforward station hand-out is read. I try for a different approach to each station, e.g., women's lib on SW where the director of R. Maldives is a woman!! as we did in a recent feature. In the past I've also tried to keep people informed about what's going on on your side of the pond and the response has been very good so far.

gh: I haven't been able to get much out of the programs heard so far, because VOA opens on 9770 at 0300; and 6155 is rather noisy this time of year, tho WYFR is off it at last (I'm sure merely because it is more advantageous for them to keep only one transmitter on 49m). The 1230 transmission isn't making it any more. Frequency was supposedly changed to 15155.

B R A Z I L (Mark Basick, CA) Rádio Nacional de Brasília will resume its international services at the end of the year or the beginning of '79 according to sources there. Still, I pick up their Portuguese service to the Amazon clearly on 11780 kHz daily. Too bad I don't speak Portuguese...but listening to the music is the next best thing until yearend.

gh: Program sked for this service appeared in the March NASWA Listeners Notebook.

B U L G A R I A (Will Sibus, NY) From R. Sofia, I got a total of 6 cards and a year's subscription to Bulgaria Today, in July last year, for some contest I entered. Well, I received 2 issues and then zilch. I then noticed all my mail was being opened, which is OK by me, but why put staples right through the center of cards, letters etc., to reseal it up. Good grief, Charlie Brown. Even stamps were torn off. Well, I checked the PO locally and finally they exonerated themselves by admitting they turn over to US Customs, the foreign mail for screening. I read in Time magazine also, that it is done and the PO does not do it. Maybe that explains some of the mail problems. Someone else collects stamps, QSLs, etc.

gh: I wouldn't take that kind of government snooping so easily. It certainly must be selective, as I've not detected any tampering with the large amount of foreign mail I get, since I departed from the Air Farce (They figured Sweden Calling DXers stood for "Deserters"...!)

C A N A D A (Louis Goldstein, MA) My error; the frequency was 6195 kHz. Since last time, CBC NS dropped all comedy and dramatic shows previously aired at 0004 GMT on weeknights as well as eliminating Gilmour's Albums Sundays at 1605. For those in my area of the USA, CBC AM on 740 and 940 are no longer audible because of local stations closing later with EDST. Wish CBC would extend domestic relay at least half hour longer on 5960 kHz. Reception on Sunday nights to RCI's transmission at 0000 is very good and wish they would tighten up the rest of the program. DX Digest has so much information with what seems such a rapid fire delivery that one is unable to gain full value without use of tape recorder. I tried taking notes, but I'm not that fast. Leisurely pace of rest of program could well be strictured (sic) a bit better. So much precious time seems wasted with inconsequential talk. Years ago RCI used to offer segments of dramatization made from Canadian authors. This was interesting and kept interest of listeners on weekends. How does this sound? Fifteen minute drama, and 15 minute DX Digest. For weekdays, I'd extend domestic relay of CBC at least one half hour so excellent lineup each night at 0000 could be heard world wide. This would give world a much better view of Canadian life, culture,humor on regular basis.

gh: Didn't you just say above that the 0004 NS features had been dropped? Local MW signoffs are a matter of later sunset, nothing to do with EDST. I expect that anyone genuinely interested in latest DX tips will surely have a tape recorder. As long as I have only 5 minutes I don't see how I can slow down any further and still do justice to the material. It does seem to me that the North American service mailbag is extremely repetitive and inconsequential.

Remember how Earle Fisher used to do it? He encouraged unusual questions by doing a bit of research to find the answers. Currently we hear little but 'what is GMT?' and 'why am I getting RCI on my AM radio?' And one never knows whether these questions important only to the absolute neophyte in SWLing, will appear in the mailbag, or in DX Digest. There should be a clearer division of specialization between the two programs. Preferably, neither should deal with these boringly repetitive questions at all, but send out an info sheet by mail containing the answers to the "25 most frequently asked questions". It gets a little tiresome for me hearing the mailbag hosts kidding each other all the time. I know it's an attempt to be informal, but what does it accomplish? Wastes valuable time. No one sounds more informal than Ian, but he is usually making a point at the same time. And I know by heart what they'd say about running Canadian drama: "We could do it if we had hour-long transmissions like we once did, but there simply isn't time in a half hour".

C H I N A (Fred McClenaghan, ODXA) For exotic Chinese music and radio plays, try Radio Peking's home service on 15030 from 0000 to 0130 GMT.

(Will Sibus, NY) One of my better QSLs plus was Peking, of all places. Took a couple of months but got a pennant, couple of issues of Peking news, China Reconstructs and the usual propaganda. One thing I did notice was the fact of the too obvious, excellent use and spelling of English. Don't see that in our daily newspapers. But it's all for show for the 'furriners'. Anyway that was last summer and then all communication with them stopped; when at the end of November I received a large 2 by 3 foot, very attractive calendar from them. Now I'm back to zilch.

C U B A (Henry Slofstra, Feb. ODXA Listeners' Corner) R. Habana is hit with a fair amount of criticism in the DX press, but I like the station. R. Habana plays a wide range of music, often unmatched for signal quality. African and Latin-American selections predominate, often accompanied by informative commentary. To be approached with an open mind: I personally don't like to make a judgment about any particular type of music until I've heard it at least a couple of hundred times. Try 9685 kHz between 0100 and 0450 GMT.

C Z E C H O S L O V A K I A (Will Sibus, NY) I agree with Roger Peterson. R. Prague has some very interesting history programming (for a behind-the-curtain country) which can be verified by local history books. Again my correspondence was short-lived with a packet of daily newspapers and a letter signed by Janna, the excellent female MC & announcer.

gh: If she's the one I'm thinking about, she really has a great voice! I just received a large packet of material from Prague--history of the station, frequency schedule, etc., etc., BUT--no specific schedule of programs. Not the only station which overlooks this!

C H I L E (Will Sibus, NY) Voice of Chile ought to say 'boo' too. Since their takeover or turnover, you would think they could thank us a little since they are using our transmitters and power plants.

gh: I was under the impression that the continuing expansion of the Voice of Chile is the result of regular purchases of equipment, rather than expropriation.

(Bob Pinchuk, Cinnaminson NJ) Chile is in the worst position of all the nations in the world. Not only is the UN out to destroy Chile, but the USA is doing its share, indirectly, of course! I sympathize with them for they are used by third world nations to get publicity off their own atrocities, such as Burundi's mass murder of 300,000 of her own citizens, and Uganda's 'high auto accident rate'. It seems as though other nations turn their back on their neighbors' affairs but condemn Chille to the fullest. Even with all this going against them, they have managed to make the most remarkable comeback, both political and economic, in the world. From an inflation rate of more than 1000% to a low double-digit mark. From a virtual police state, to a relative calm atmosphere in Santiago and other major cities. The political prisoners have all but a few been moved out of the Santiago stadiums, and either sentenced by a military tribunal, or deported. All the prisoners were Allende supporters, and

were the ones that refused to give themselves up. It was not Pinochet who started the coup, but two other members of the former democratic government who realized Chile was headed for disaster. These men asked Gen. Pinochet for his support for he had control of the armed forces. As soon as the junta took over, they did two things: 1) Break off relations with Cuba, and 2) Make a statement, "we will proceed to rid Chile of the Communist menance that has plagued our country." The three-man junta decided one man rule would work best, and the other two chose Pinochet to be the absolute ruler of this nation. Jails overflowed with Allende supporters, so they put the excess in the Metropolitan Stadium to await trial. The USA decided, for world opinion probably, that they should abandon this coup and condemn them for human rights violations, after having given them covert support. The USA government denies giving them support, but it is stated pretty clearly in the book, The CIA and The Cult of Intelligence, by two former CIA agents, Victor Marchetti and John Marks. The CIA took these two authors and the publisher to court trying to censor some of the material. This was the first time such action had been taken in American history. Chile was now all alone, abandoned by its former supporters, the UN and even the World Bank, who denied Chile a loan to help rebuild some of the destruction to the economy of the country. They did do it, all by themselves, with the leadership of Pinochet, and some stringent martial law; they managed to rebuild their nation. Their standard of living is up, and Pinochet has even pledged to reimburse the US companies, particularly Kennecott of the seized mines taken by Allende. As noted in the recent plebescite, Pinochet has support of over 80% of the citizenship. He has pledged to return to civilian rule when 'the healing process is finished'.

At present Chile is almost back to normal. Although still under a dictatorship, they have freedoms and are living much better than under the temporary hell of the Allende government. Their news is the opposite of Radio Moscow's. Radio Moscow is anti-capitalist, and Chile is anti-communist, though they both use about the same amount of adjectives. The most important thing to remember when listening to their newscast is they are very much anti-communist. As in the Soviet Union they persecute those who are not communists, in Chile they persecute those who are communists! Of course there is some opposition to the Pinochet regime, not necessarily from communists, but from the labor parties. The labor demonstrators are not put in jail or put to death. The point that I am trying to get across is Chile should not be condemned for trying to restore justice. In every revolution or coup there is going to be some violence. The Chilean coup was much more bloodless than the recent coup in Afghanistan where 8000 loyal soldiers were lying around the city streets. Or in Burundi, where 800,000 men of the minority tribe were slaughtered in a genocide by the government in power. The UN took no action against the Burundi government, so why single Chile out? In the Voice of Chile's newscast you'll hear many things that pertain to this and if you listen closely you can pick up a true view of what is going on down in that nation. They of course can be heard at 0300 and 0530 in English on numerous frequencies in the 25 and 19m bands, with news commentary (boring but informative) and musical programs of the strangest kind.

gh: It looks like you're falling for their line hook line and sinker. Why should you assume Voice of Chile tells the truth? And in Burundi, was it 300,000 or 800,000??? Of course the atrocities in Burundi, Uganda and elsewhere should be condemned, but that shouldn't get Chile off the hook! May I remind you too, that this long exposition was only incidentally involved with reviewing international broadcasting! Less digression, please.

D O M I N I C A N R E P U B L I C (Stephen Koval, May CANDX "Feedback" edited by Richard Larson) Radio Clarín with Rudy Espinal is one of, if not the best station on SW. "This Is Santo Domingo" has good cultural reports, excellent Demonican music, places to write for free tourist info, and "Review of International Broadcasting of the Air" by Glenn Hauser.

(Richard Stoller, NY) Finally managed to hear Clarín-DX after 3 weeks of trying. 11700 is becoming a crowded frequency with trouble from Libya, Argentina, Chile, etc.! Anyhow, I had the good fortune of tuning into the "RIB of the Air" reviewing the April issue. Very good; very slickly produced, too. Where'd you pick up the Baoulé flute piece? Also nice to hear some DX news at a leisurely pace, on your NASWA DX News report another week.

gh: The international folk music I include on RIBOTA all comes from WUOT's extensive record library. It's hard to say just how any individual record was obtained. Clarín-DX is GMT Sundays at 0000-0030. Radio Moscow's Latin American service on 11700 has been the greatest interference problem; also teletype on both sides of the frequency! At one point Rudy said they were running only 35 kW (tho their taped announcement always says 50); that it costs about $5000 a month to run their international service; that as a private enterprise, even tho Clarín is the biggest commercial station in the country, they cannot afford to keep a complete stock of spare parts, so when something goes wrong, they have to go off the air until it can be flown in from the USA. Programming was disrupted by the Dominican election in mid-May, and when "TISD" resumed, the normally touristical Rudy became political, assuring listeners that everything was under control in the D.R., that there was no election fraud, and he criticised Pres. Carter, and Venezuelan Pres. Pérez for meddling in internal Dominican affairs. So far I've not been able to persuade Rudy Espinal to tell us a bit about himself, but he did reveal on May 23 that he was born in Curaçao, then went to Lebanon, where his father was transferred, for 3 years, so he spoke French then, and taught it for a while in the D.R., but is losing it now. But French and Dutch are only a few of several languages Rudy can be heard greeting listeners in.

(Dave Walcutt, TX) On Friday after the election, Rudy reported on the situation during the late 0300 broadcast. He was quite serious for a change, and doubtful of the future of Clarín should the Socialists win.

(Harold Sellers, Ont., ODXA) On "TISD" Rudy played a number of selections of the popular Dominican type of music known as merengue. R. Clarín's English program is certainly garnering a lot of enthusiastic listeners.

gh: It's nothing but merengues he plays. While it's very enjoyable music, a little more variety in musical style on the program would be nice, from other Caribbean cultures. The new 1200 GMT airing doesn't always show. On May 27 Spanish suddenly turned to English around 1245. Rudy admitted he personally favored Balaguer, while announcing that his opponent had unoficially won the election.

E C U A D O R (Mark Basick, CA) In my town every September, we have an international street fair. Last year a group from the Hare Krishna sect was passing out info, selling books and preaching about the 'good life', etc. Many practicing Christians were saying how terrible it was that they were pushing their beliefs on the public in a public place. Yet isn't this what HCJB is doing?? I used to tune in to HCJB once in a while, but now I practically never do. I don't need someone shoving some of that unprofessional propaganda down my throat. I prefer much more digestible programming. In my opinion, HCJB would turn more people away from Christianity than turning people on to Christ as is one of their aims.

Talking about programming for the lowest common denominator, take a look at Unshackled. A mental moron in the first degree would be the only one to find this program stimulating (with that ridiculous organ and the grade school level actors) and the confusion between common sense and God in the solving of their problems.

The people who work at HCJB have made sacrifices in their lives to do their missionary work there. Just because they have made sacrifices, tho, this does not necessarily mean that their programming is good. There have been suggestions to compare Christian stations with HCJB and not to compare HCJB with other SW stations. This is like trying to find the best out of the pits. Their programming is comparatively lousy.

Re Steve Kennedy's comments in the March RIB-- Yes, the USSR advocates atheism, but as yet, I haven't heard R. Moscow nor R. Kiev pushing atheistic propaganda or saying that there isn't a God. What's this business about Christianity and the American government going hand in hand? When religious beliefs, whether they're atheistic or Christian are kept out of govt affairs, then we will progress steadily and peacefully. (For instance, take a look at the Anita Bryant campaign). In my opinion, religious beliefs should be between God and the individual, and should not be pressured or propagandized upon others of different beliefs.

F I N L A N D (Alan Roe, UK, DSWCI Editor) R. Finland are running an excellent series of "Stories from the Classics" translated and produced by Diana Tullberg. Tho the stories appear to be mainly for children, they are still worth hearing. I wonder if there are any plans to serialise a full-length novel? I hope so, and I am sure that it would be a great success.

gh: Not in North America, where reception is not dependable one week to the next! Better keep to short stories. R. Finland's new slick schedule says "R. Finland is one of the few English-language broadcasters on SW with regular dramatized literature programmes. This season in our Sunday Best we bring you a selection of dramatizations adapted for radio by Diana Tullberg. The series includes The Wolf, by Timo K. Mukka (June 11), The Widow's Tale, by Eeva Kilpi (June 18), A Summer Dream, by Juhani Aho (June 25), My Childhood by Toivo Pekkanen (July 2), Long Ago, by Eila Pennanen (July 9), A Stranger Came to the Farm, by Mika Waltari (July 16) Meek Heritage, by F.E. Sillanpää (July 23), and Antti Goes Matchmaking, by Maiju Lassila (July 30). Reindeer Skin Prizes in Radio Finland's Competition for Shortwave Listeners: Radio Finland wants to know what else its listeners listen to. So we're organising a competition to find out. To enter, listeners have to send us answers to the following questions:

1. What, in your opinion, are the best five news or current events programs on SW? Put in order of preference, and say what station each is on.
2. Which five music programs on SW do you enjoy most? Put in order of preference and say which station each is on.
3. What do you think are the best five feature programs on SW? Put in order of preference and say which station each is on.
4. How often do you listen to Radio Finland? Often, sometimes, or never?

Honesty, please, in all entries. Even if the answer to question 4 is 'never', the chance of winning a prize is the same. All entries will be put into a sack, and prizewinners drawn at random on July 1. The first five will each receive a magnificent Finnish reindeer skin, covered with grey-and-white fur. And there will be prizes of Finnish musical selections for the runners-up. The results will be announced on International Letterbox, July 1. So all entries should be accompanied by the listener's name and address. The address for entries is: Letter box Competition, Radio Finland, Box 95, Helsinki 25. Good listening, and good luck!"

F R A N C E (Edward Collins, RFI, via WDXC Contact) There Are Two Sides to the Microphone. It is probable that more listeners would write to broadcasters if they realised just how highly appreciated their letters are. If the broadcaster is to be successful he must know the sort of listeners to whom he is addressing himself. Whenever a new programme first appears on the air, the people involved have a certain idea of the potential audience which may tune in to it, but they will have no notion of whether or not it is successful, until the listeners start writing in with comments. The way the programme will develop in the future largely depends upon this correspondence. What we broadcasters want more than almost anything else is the active collaboration of the listeners.

I am not trying to egg you on to saying how good the English language broadcasts are--false modesty is not one of our failings. This is a plea for a greater dialogue between those on both sides of the microphone. Tell us what you like in our programmes and why, but please tell us as well why you do not like some of the things we are trying to do. In the daily news magazine broadcast in Paris Calling Africa, many changes have been made following suggestions contained in letters. For a long time listeners were writing to us asking for French lessons. We decided this was more than a passing whim or isolated requests, and we set about finding a suitable lesson for listeners. Here we were faced with two problems: The amount of time which we could devote to the lessons, and whether or not our listeners were beginners or already had a certain knowledge of the language. Eventually we found a series of lessons. Then there was the case of whether or not to use classical music in our programmes to counterbalance the French pop and the African high life and Congolese rhythms. We took a chance and the weekly feature "Music in France Today". Another example is the daily spot on PCA called "You Asked For It". So you can see, our programmes have been considerably modified and are indeed undergo a constant slow change thanks to the direct influence of suggestions and criticisms made by listeners in many parts of the world. We can't always follow suggestions, but if enough

listeners ask often enough for something, we try to satisfy their request. So please do write to us. Don't forget, there are two sides to a microphone and each has its part to play if the programmes are going to be a success.

G E R M A N Y E A S T (James Chalmers, UK, WDXC Broadcasting Review editor) It is interesting to notice a new RBI programme. Considering it to be the safest form of criticism, I have often complained about their sports programs (Monday, Spotlight on Sport; Thurs, Midweek Sports Report), which I have said sound like one big national back-slap. Long lists of GDR successes do get rather boring, was my general complaint. As a result of criticisms on this point from myself and others, they have introduced a new feature "Top Around Sport", every second Tuesday. Evidently, in one of its first editions it answered my criticisms on their other sports programs, which they justified by describing as 'concentrating on the latest results'. The new programme will normally feature "a look behind the scenes, at the people behind the names, at the way sport is organised and run in the GDR". They invite any requests on topics to be covered in the programme. A step in the right direction?

gh: RBI's North American service at 0330-0415 is making it seasonal appearence, good on 11890. Or try the South East Asian service at 1200-1245 and 1400-1445 on 21540.

G E R M A N Y W E S T (Axel Woeste, GFR, WDXC Contact) Deutsche Welle has been broadcasting now for 25 years. The first test transmissions were made in 1926, and it all started in Germany with the first SW communication, Germany to Argentina. This makes Germany a veteran in SW communication and broadcasting. It seems to me there has always been a desire to present Germany, a small country which lost its colonies after World War I, and lost the war to the world. With Hitler coming to power, and the world increasingly talking bad about Germany, radio was a medium to tell the world that conditions in Germany were much better than the outside world thought, and to defend their policy many SW transmitters were built at Zeesen. After World War II, West Germany was left without SW transmitters, and it was not until 1947 that the first SW xmtr went on the air at Osterloog in northern Germany. After 1955 the site near Jülich was built, and then followed the other DW sites, so the West German SW system became one of the world's largest and best equipt. Germany once again had a powerful voice in the world, among others, defending and explaining the 'Grundgesetz' (Fundamental Law = constitution) which says that Germany is not only the Federal Republic, but also the Democratic Republic and other former German regions.

The roots of the type of newscasts and political programmes lie in the facts mentioned above. West Germany has been more frequently and more severely attacked by communist countries than by pluralistic and right-winged dictatorial states, and the central and eastern parts of Germany are under socialist rule. So one task of DW was and is to defend liberal viewpoints, and to counter-attack. The result was to be a general tendency to the right, a cutback in the objectivity which they claim.

My impression was recently confirmed. In 'Kurier' (Dec 77), published by the Association of German-speaking DXers, I read about a UNESCO examination concluding that both DW and DLF rate East Germany and the other socialist countries negative, and support Israel. Typical of DW, according to UNESCO, is a standard of value: positive are such terms as "Freedom", "Independence" and "Democracy" representing the western ideological complex, whereas 'Communism', and "Coup d'état" are negative. This standard ran into trouble when there was a coup in Chile overthrowing a marxist government. This combination results in supporting the new regime. The DW staff should tune to VOA from time to time. They could learn how to make better programmes dealing with politics. But I want to stress that the DW reports are not too bad, if one knows how they report, it is always possible to put things in the right perspective.

You should know that one task on DW broadcasts is to inform Germans abroad of what's going on in Germany and to keep in close contact with them, especially the emigrant groups in Southeast Asia, Southwest Africa, South Africa and South America, who are generally very conservative. They are in some respects more German than the Germans themselves are, and by producing programmes with the tendency towards the right it is easier for them to address these people and to keep in touch with them. But we must not forget that many of the DW's listeners are

living in dictatorial states where there is no freedom of press, and people are not used to comparing points of view that are presented in a newscast or one and the same item with one another and so making up their own ideas on events. Does the special way in which DW reports and presents news and reports with the conservative tendency explain the success DW broadcasts have in Eastern Eruope? In the news magazine Time, Mar. 13 1978, I read that altho West Germany has a Social Democratic government, its economy is rather capitalist. A capitalist state explained to the world by a conservative radio station makes sense, doesn't it? I am sure RBI, the radio station of the other part of Germany, could learn a lot on how to address people from Deutsche Welle.

(Henry Slofstra, Ont., ODXA Editor) Like R. Habana, DW is hit with a fair amount of criticism in the DX press. But DW has interesting features from time to time. I make a habit of tuning in a few minutes late to miss the news. Because the program is so brief--20 minutes--you never waste too much time if the program is a dud. Try anywhere within 25 kHz of 6100 at 0130

H U N G A R Y (Budapest International) On the 25th anniversary of the execution of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, for the alleged crime of passing atomic secrets to Soviet Union, Radio Budapest presents the Rosenbergs Anniversary Lecture. We have invited an eminent Hungarian scientist to discuss this issue: What does science say to the conflict between the despair-ridden concept of neutron bomb production and the conscious hope inspired by détente? To be broadcast Sat. June 17 in the 2100 broadcast; Sun. June 18 in 0200, 0300, 1030, 2100; Mon. June 19 at 0300, 1030, 1430, 2100; Tue. June 20 at 0200, 0300, 1030, 1430. Backgrounds, at the same times exc. Mon 2100 and Tue, on June 3-5 deals with Dance Music of the Thirties, The Radio Children's Choir, and Zsolt Durkó's Turner Illustrations.

I R A Q (Will Sibus, NY) Has anyone QSLd Iraq? R. Baghdad has a female announcer with a voice that would rejuvenate a 95 year old to a love-hungry teenager. Wow. On at 2130 GMT, on 9745 kHz.

I S R A E L (Mark Basick, CA) R. Israel's Spanish service comes in loud and clear at 0445, but who wants to bother with a 10-minute a day single slot?? I can't understand the reasoning in this though half hour a day is alotted to each the Georgian, Romanian, Persian and Moghrabi services. I doubt there is a lack of Spanish speakers in Israel. If they can find someone who speaks exotic languages like Tat, Bucharian, Ladino, etc., it can't be too hard to find a Spanish speaker. Radio Israel would have a much bigger porential audience with a half hour a day Spanish service. Today there is strong anti-semitic feeling in Argentina, which has led to terrorism and other clashes. Numerous Jews have chosen to leave Argentina. I feel that this is justification enough for an increased Latin American service. On another note, while the English section of the IBA doesn't even bother to write 'thanks' on a post-card or answer a listener's question in writing, I got a very friendly letter from Sara Joel of the Spanish service after I only requested a program sked. Much appreciated....

gh: The 10-minute Spanish news is a temporary measure, actually a relay from the home service, until a full Spanish service can be introduced. It's better than nothing.

J A P A N (Tom Blossom, OH) The United Church of Christ has several missioners working for Kyodan, the United Church of Japan. Tom Paton lives in north Tokyo with wife and four children in a flat about the size of an American garage. While he was in Ohio on furlough I asked him about NHK. He said they are straightforward, but a little shy on controversy, which is common in Japanese society. He said I would hear little about the current Japanese military buildup favored by right-wingers, the Shintoists, the USA (we want our Asia-Pacific defense burden relieved), but opposed by the Buddhists, the Christians (1% of the population) and the Constitution. He also doubted listeners would hear much about Korean civil rights (I have heard some on the Asian news at 0035 and 0220) since Japanese tycoons run the sweat shops in Korea, filled with young women virtually enslaved to the garment industry, backed by the Park régime.

K O R E A N O R T H (Harold Sellers, ODXA) A question: Doesn't Radio Pyongyang have any other type of program except discussions of reunification of the North and South?

L I B Y A (Richard Stoller, NY) If I may be permitted to add to the tidal wave of "Best...", "Worst..." and other misc. awards, I wish to bestow upon the good people of PRB (or LAPSJBC; pick your favorite) the dubious honor of the 'strangest interval signal award of 1977'. It's hard to pin down, but it's some ME wind monstrosity, I think. Call me a bloodthirsty ethnocentric ogre but that IS is weird!

N E T H E R L A N D S (gh) It seems a bit odd that the only broadcast to what is one of Radio Nederland's major target areas, presumably, the EDT zone of North America, does not come on until 10:30 p.m. local. While 0230 GMT is OK for some of us, Radio Nederland would no doubt reach a larger audience, especially of younger people, if they had an English broadcast about three hours earlier. The unexpected conversion of the 2130 GMT program to Dutch for Surinam daily, rules out late-afternoon listening. I know there are other, perhaps more important priorities, such as Dutch, and that putting English on at 2330 from Bonaire would conflict with the present Spanish broadcast. But there is another way out, labour unions permitting--keep Lopik on the air an hour longer! Presently, there are no transmissions from Holland itself after 2320 GMT. Radio Nederland doesn't even consider broadcasting direct to North America from Holland anymore with Bonaire seemingly such a better site--but the Europe-to-North America path is now quite reliable all night long on 15, even 17 MHz, as Italy, Switzerland, Hungary, Poland, etc., are proving. Please, RN, give us EDT types an English broadcast earlier in the evening as soon as possible!

(Roger N. Peterson, CT) Dick Speekman gets my vote of confidence for the way he has handled all the criticism heaped on Radio Nederland's program changes. I note, too that in the May-October schedule, the station has made certain modifications. One is the restoration of Bruce Parsons with a new program on Saturdays called On Cloud Number Nine, which seems to be like the old "Parsons' Penthouse". They have also added five minutes to DX Juke Box from Bonaire. Maybe some broadcasters do listen.

(Diane S. Lévesque, IL) Tom Meijer says he will be doing all the Happy Stations live, July 2 after the new satellite feed system comes into use. Hope he has plenty of coffee.

gh: The extension of some programs by 5 minutes is because they realized their newer transmitters in Madagascar and Bonaire don't need 5 minutes to change frequencies. Although Dick announced that DXJB was 5 minutes longer from Bonaire and Madagascar, on May 25 at 2030, the short version was still on Madagascar frequencies.

(Fred McClenaghan, Ont., ODXA) His 'n' Hers on Tuesdays is a greatly improved show. There is an emphasis on Dutch music, and a little background information is given. A recent show was devoted to Vera Lynn. I had always dismissed her as a cliché, without really listening, but this show turned me around.

(Henry Slofstra, Ont., ODXA) I hope I don't offend anyone by saying that I'm sick of hearing Debby Boone's hit, "You Light Up My Life". You can't even escape it on the SW bands. On a recent Happy Station program, Tom Meyer handled a request for this song from a Calgary listener. Not again, I thought. As it turned out, Tom did nothave her version of the song, but he hoped he could oblige by playing Carole King's. This got me thinking, as Carole King usually records only original material, leave alone stooping to record such shlock as this. Tom then proceeded to play an entirely different song from the smash hit, which coincidentally had the same title. My congratulations.

(Mark Basick, CA) On Sat. April 22, in place of Triple S, RN broadcast an interview with the last survivor of the Titanic, Eva Hart. It was not the usual 'and then this happened' storytelling session. I could have listened to her for hours. She brought out some new recollections like that the Titanic broke in two before sinking--it did not sink intact. My only complaint was a little bad taste on RN's part. At the end of the interview, she said that the most horrible thing was listening to the people screaming when they drowned. To close, an

English folk song was played accompanied by a tape of human screaming. It kind of made for an anti-climax to this most interesting special...

N O R W A Y (Alan Roe, UK, DSWCI) During the summer, R. Norway will be broadcasting a number of interesting programmes, including a look at the "Travellers' Club", which limits membership to 'tramps and vagabonds'. A look at how Norwegians spend their summer vacations, a programme on publishing and publications in general in Norway, and a look at the coastal ship link between Bergen and Kirkenes are included. I very much enjoy this little station. They really pack a lot into their short weekly half-hour. The first 15 minutes present 'news and views about Norway', followed by 15 minutes of feature programming. I can learn more about Norway in that one 30-minute programme, than I can about, say, Holland in all of their programmes thru the week. Many of the larger stations could take a 'leaf out of R. Norway's book'

P A P U A N E W G U I N E A (Mark Basick, CA) Although it's a rare station to pick up, I really enjoy listening to the NBC via the national SW stations in Port Moresby. My favorite program is the local news show--not that it is a rival to the BBC or anything, but it's very entertaining!! On one recent edition, some of the news included: That police will look out for drunk drivers all year round (an official police statement??), a case of beer has been said to have been sold on the 'black market' (two bottles were found, the rest remains at large!!) and that monthly hospital inspections will be made this week by a local health officer. The payoff came with the 'theatrical review'--a rundown of the movie at the "walk-in" (Voyage of the Damned) and at the 'drive-in' (Papillon). Commercials can add humor, too. Even tho NBC is mainly a small scale SWBC, it's got a lot of class!!!

gh: Honduran QRM permitting, it's quite regular around sunrise in North America on 4890.

P H I L I P P I N E S (via Tom Overcamp, SC) Here are a few of FEBC's seemingly secular programs, judging from the titles in their program schedule dated January 1978, at times when they are sometimes heard in North America: GMT Sat 2305-2315 Filipiniana, 2345-2400 SW Mailbag--on 15450. In the 0800-1000 period on 11765 and/or 11850: Sun 0845-0900 This Is the Philippines, 0930-0940 News of the Week in Review, 0945-1000 Australia Calling. Fri 0845-0900 SW Mailbag. Editorial Page, Mon-Fri 0940-0945.

(via Ed Kusalik, Ont., May ODXA Listeners' Corner) Some R. Veritas Asia regular programs--Asian Memorandum, Sun 1407-1427. Windows to the World, Mon 0105-0125. RV Listeners International, Mon 1440-1500. Friendship Unlimited, Tue 0105-0125. Explore the Philippines, Tue 1412-1427. Literary Perspectives-Asia, Wed 0140-0155. Cinema for Asia, Wed 1440-1500. The Asian Dwelling, Thu 0140-0155. Doing More With Less, Thu 1440-1500. The Asian Achievers, Fri 1440-1500. Our Asian Neighbour, Sat 1407-1412. Frequencies were 11725/15280 at 0100-0200, and 9590, 11955, 15115 at 1400-1500.

P O L A N D (Brian Wallace & Edwin Southwell, WDXC Contact) Polish Radio has a DX programme, a new one, covering technical news, the 4th Sunday of the month in all broadcasts except 2030.

(Alexandros Koutamanis, Greece, DSWCI) Some of the English broadcasts of R. Warsaw are Press Review, daily at 1200 and weekdays at 1600. Mostly discusses international affairs and less often the domestic ones which are of great interest. Suns 1600 & 2230 and Mons 0630, they present a selection of Polish press comment on Britain. Panorama,(Tue & Thu 1600, 1830, 2230 and repeated on Wed & Fri 0630 and 1200), and Letter from Poland (Weds 1600, 1830, 2230), discuss various aspects of life in Poland, while Week in Poland, Sats 2030, Suns 1600, 2230, Mons 0630, is more interesting as it covers the most characteristic events in Poland during the past week. Anglo-Polish Magazine is quite attractive as well. Every last Mon of the month at 1600 2030 and 2230 it informs the listeners about Polish-British cooperation on various fields. The most interesting programme, however, in my opinion is Focus (alternate Thurs 2030 & Sats 1600 1830 2230). It's about cultural events and gives valuable information and good criticism on Polish movies--something that everybody interested in cinema shouldn't miss--literature, music the visual arts, and theatre. Sometimes they broadcast extracts or plays translated into Eng-

lish. They answer listeners letters quite soon and send booklets and magazines (very interesting) about Poland. Their only drawback is that they don't announce the frequencies on which their programmes are carried.

(Richard Stoller, NY) Best reception currently at 0200 on 15135.

gh: Maybe, but when I checked they were on the usual 15120, if you can get past HCJB 15115. One can only assume that some of the programming Alexandros covered above also appears in the little-publicized English blocks to North America at 0200 and 0300. How about a survey?

ROMANIA (Fred McClenaghan, Ont., ODXA) R. Bucharest's Letterbox program has taken a turn for the better. More questions are covered, without going into such excruciating detail as was done previously. The program is interspersed with music. (I don't know if this change was made as a direct result of Fred's comments in his review of RB's programs, but RIB contributors have noticed a correlation between suggestions they have made to stations, and changes in those stations' programming -- Henry Slofstra, ODXA editor)

SOUTH AFRICA (Will Sibus, NY) Radio RSA to me is A-OK with their "Saturday Night RSA" program. I usually disregard politics as that is a two way game (clean & dirty).

SPAIN (Mark Basick, CA) I enjoy both RNE's English and Spanish services. My complaint lies in their 'programme schedule'. All the info that it includes is time, frequency, language, and where the broadcasts are beamed to. My main use of program schedules is to find out what programs might interest me and then tune in to them specifically. I don't have the time to listen to 6 hours of RNE straight just to find out which programs interest me. A sked listing the names of the different programs and their times need not be fancy, multi-colored jobbers like RSA Calling--a xeroxed typed sheet like Radio Cairo's is sufficient. I would even be willing to include IRCs for a sked such as this. RNE has some outstanding programming; I am sure I have missed several excellent programs. I realize that RNE isn't the only SWBC with useless skeds, but why can't they set an example to the rest??

gh: Not long ago, I received a program sked from them; maybe they still send them out upon specific request.

SWEDEN (Will Sibus, NY) I had to tell R. Sweden to please stop (believe it or not) sending a QSL card for every report. I'd send in a month's reports at a time and they would send me a card or cards for every one. I was getting tired of blue, yellow all over the place. One extreme to another, feast or famine.

TAHITI (Diane S. Lévesque, IL) R. Tahiti can't be beat for DJ-less, relaxing music, Pacific Islander style. Records back-to-back and ID and news only on the hour--at least when I hear it. A good station to make background tapes from, especially if you live in the western part of North America. I understand it's like a local in California, which doesn't surprise me 'cause it comes in like RCI's sig does here, at around 0500 on 15170.

UGANDA (gh) Look for a North American service from UBC before long. They've been running test broadcasts announced in English for the USA, and in French for Canada (sorry, you English Canadians, you don't count in Uganda...), on 15325 kHz, heard regularly between 0300 and 0400, thanks to Jim Conrad for tipping me on this. Richard M. Utter also heard the same announcements between 1812 and 1847 on 15325, with surprisingly little QRM from Canada. I can see it now---"UganDX"

USA -- VOA (Malcolm Kaufman, NY) Chalk up another one for the magazine format. On Sat. evening May 13 (Sunday GMT) I tuned in VOA's English service for Latin America at 0100 looking forward to a 10-minute newscast, "This Week" an excellent review of the week's news, and of course, "New York, New York", hosted by Arlene Francis who followed in the footsteps of the late Ben Grauer. But, to my consternation, I found that all of these programs have been

dumped and replaced by a magazine format program entitled "Weekend," and hosted by a Lynn Farmer. I must confess that I'm essentially hostile to the magazine format, though I'll admit it can be done in good taste and with intelligence. "Paris Calling Africa" is one example of the magazine at its best. But "Weekend"? The program aims at such diverse audiences, it ends up alienating all of them. The program of the 13th featured segments on the rock group "Steely Dan", the comic strip hero Superman, the Philadelphia Orchestra, plus hard news features on Indochinese refugees and terrorism. It would take a listener of extremely broad tastes and interests to get through it all. To think of the programs that were canned to make way for this! One small comforting note--the format is confined, for the time being, to Saturday night only. Programming in this service on other evenings remains intact.

I've got a sneaking suspicion that the new VOA head, R. Peter Strauss, is behind this development. Strauss is the former owner of WMCA in New York. For years, WMCA was a Top 40 rocker. When FM caught on, rockers on that band put a dent in Strauss' ratings and he turned to telephone talk. On his station that has meant endless hours of local bigots tangling in a sado-masochistic exchange with talk show hosts who delight in insulting callers. For me, at least, SW has been an alternative to the pablum on the commercial AM & FM bands. Could "Weekend", the VOA's first programming innovation under Strauss' stewardship, signal an ominous trend towards adopting commercial-style formats; dropping in the process some of VOA's excellent programs?

Strauss, incidentally, was quoted in a clipping read recently over DX Party Line as planning 'experimental' telephone talk shows over VOA. I'm feeling more and more uncomfortable over Strauss' programming philosophy as time moves on. I suppose VOA could be inundated with protests. But as Americans, our protests will fall on deaf ears. After all, we're not supposed to be listening.

(Diane Lévesque, IL) Bob Foxworth might be interested in this-- VOA has an excellent jazz program every Sunday and Monday. Jazz Hour, or something, featuring the newest releases and album cuts. It also features info on who is playing what on the various cuts, besides just the name of the cut and the album. It comes on at various times, on the various frequencies. I'll agree, good jazz on the air is hard to find, and for all the other criticisms I have for the local Southern Illinois University, I've got to say that the jazz features it has both on WSIU-FM & TV are really good--but that's not anything but local. Jazz enthusiasts should try the local college station, for they might be pleasantly surprised.

(Tom Blossom, OH) On 11 May I toured the VOA with Public Information Officer George D. Berlin as well as a Swiss and an Israelite. The young Jewish man immediately complained that VOA had no Hebrew. Mr. Berlin replied that relatively few people spoke Hebrew, but even more that "VOA serves people who have a difficult time getting uncensored news". He mentioned Swedish and Japanese as similarly absent languages. Mr. Berlin said the three VOA program areas are news, policy, and Americana. The VOA is now part of the ICA (International Communication Agency), a Carter initiative that may be used to service America with foreign news also, tho not thru the VOA. The ICA's predecessor was only concerned with communicating the USA to the rest of the world.

Much remodeling is evident at VOA, for which Mr. Berlin apologized. Two studios will be added and a number remodeled: new total will be 25. Hausa will be added as the VOA's 36th language. The new master control with many digital readouts is impressive tho not fully in service. Most notable change from the old master control are three TVs, tuned to the three major networks, which Mr. Berlin said would be used to give access to the VOA for up-to-the second site reporting.

Twelve new transmitters are planned in the next two years, including an improvement at Poro. Okinawa is sorely missed. Tentative plans are for facilities in Botswana! Mr. Berlin said USSR ceased jamming VOA in 1973, but they still jam RFE and Radio Liberty from Germany. Only China currently jams the VOA. I saw the special English Sams-like "World Book VOA" sent to listeners to that service. Mr. Berlin says Willis Conover commutes three or four times per week from New York for taping sessions. The foreigners on the tour received imprinted pens. I got the fine English program skeds and several news releases and descriptive bulletins. It was a worthwhile session, and Mr. Berlin did some PR for SWLing. Next, Berne and Rome!

U S A -- AFRTS (Louis Goldstein, MA) I had just about given up ever getting any satisfaction from AFRTS. Gave an added push here and a little there and it seems to have paid off. Got some nice apologetic letters from Asst. Sec'y of Defense and both the Chief, AFRTS, and Director AFRTS. As a result of a letter I wrote to Senator Kennedy. Got impression that they do welcome comments and suggestions from SWLs, even stateside ones. I was surprized (sic) that they have file of my past correspondence suggesting programming additions which were eventually incorporated in their new schedule. More officials with programming clout should read RIB. Some further changes, additions and deletions monitored to AFRTS schedule (the 1300-1400 GMT period is now different, due to DST shift adding the 0800-0900 CDT hour to stateside transmitters -gh). To keep with the previously published schedules, these too are in Central Time for which 5 hours must currently be added to get GMT; after October, 6 hours -gh.

Mon-Fri
*0800 AP NEWS
*0806 UPI NEWS
0811 MBS ASK JACK ANDERSON
0814 MBS ST JOHN'S JOURNAL
0817 MBS PRIVATE LINE
0820 MBS BLACK NET SPORTS
0825 ABC REPORTING SPORTS
0830 ABC NEWS
0835 CBS SPECTRUM I
0839 CBS SPECTRUM II
0843 CBS NEWSBREAK
0850 CBS WHAT'S HAPPENING?
0855 CBS MEET THE COOK

Tue-Sat
0324 NBC CONFRONTATION
0623 CBS SPORTS WORLD ROUNDUP
1652 NBC MARK RUSSELL
1811 NBC TODAY'S BIG STORY

Monday
2330 NAVY RADIO

Thursday
2330 ABC MEET AUTHOR/NEWSMAKER
2345 MARINE DIARY

Friday
2330 ABC NEWS
2335 AP PORTFOLIO

Saturday
0635 NET NEWSCALL
*0800 AP NEWS
*0806 UPI NEWS
0811 MBS ASK JACK ANDERSON
0814 MBS ST JOHN'S JOURNAL
0817 MBS PRIVATE LINE
0820 MBS BLACK NET SPORTS
0826 ABC WORLD OF SPORTS
0830 ABC NEWS
0835 CBS SPECTRUM I
0839 CBS SPECTRUM II
0843 CBS NEWSBREAK
0850 CBS WHAT's HAPPENING?
0855 CBS MEET THE COOK

Sunday
0430 ABC NEWS

(Diane S. Lévesque, IL) Speaking of AFRTS, I was listening to 15330 last night at 0200. Hours later, RAI came on with the loveliest music, and the result was what I call "the NBA Waltz". Basketball with a background of EZ music. As 0600 rolled around, it became "Night-club Brawl"--EZ music with a background of crowd noise. Then they both faded out like a well-planned take-under.

U S A -- MEDIUMWAVE (Louis Goldstein, MA) Is it any better where you are? Public affairs programming at less than advantageous times. Just a sampling. WEEI AM (CBS O&O) Capitol Cloakroom Sat 4:08 AM; Barnestorming Sun 12:45 AM; Special Assignment 2:08 AM; Science Editor 4:44 AM. World of Religion Sun 5:35 AM. WCAV-FM ABC Perspective I & II Sun 6:35 AM. WITC AM NBC Special Series, Sun 7:30 AM, one week delay; NBC Meet the Press, 11 PM.

(Gerry Bishop, PA) I think all of us are pretty much in agreement about the state of US clear channel broadcasting, in that if a station is serving a national audience, they should continue to do so without any restraints from the FCC, but those stations which only serve a local area should be trimmed back to 5 kW. I really don't understand why WCBS needs 50, or why WLW is even allowed the privilege of more than 1 kW daytime. I also like WWL, in addition to WOWO, WSM, KOB (when I'm out west), and really any station that understands that there is a large national audience, and adjusts the nighttime program to meet the wishes of that audience--to the extent of soliciting advertisers from throughout the target area, and giving weather reports for the entire region. You can keep the big eight, on any night when I can't get HC land, you'll find my radio tuned to 1190 or 870, most likely the latter.

gh: I think WCBS and other big-city clears can make a case that they need 50 kW groundwave, just to have some chance of their signal penetrating the Caves of Steel.

U S S R (Richard Stoller, NY) I have had just about as much of Radio Moscow as I can take. The newscasts have become so blatantly propagandistic that they completely ignore the facts--or, more often, twist them until they are suitable. I can go thru a transcript of the RM news and refute every other item in the program. Sure, to people who read their newspapers every

day (or even every other month), RM's newscasts are a gas. But when you consider that this bullshit is echoed through the length and width of the USSR via the radio/TV networks (yes, even in our relaxing "Mayak" net!) it's not funny. People in the west can laugh, but when you're on the 'inside' with nothing to refute the 'news', and no reason to believe it's bull ...it's the Gospel truth.

Back to us fortunate souls in the West--it is still possible to glean a few bits of newsworthy info from RM news despite what I've just said. Like the Chinese media, the placement, or lack of it, or choice of words, can make all the difference. For example, RM recently has gone to great lengths to emphasize that the Red Brigades are anarchist students, as opposed to communist revolutionaries.

(Ammon Nadav, NY) I would like to direct your readers' attention to a very interesting program generated by the Soviet Union--namely, jamming. Daily, without fail, at 0500 GMT on 9815 12077, 15545, 17630, when the IBA broadcasts its home service in Hebrew (news and magazine) towards Europe and the USA, USSR jammers wake up as well. Jamming is never a justified action in international broadcasting, but when a country interferes in the free flow of information to the US (in a language which is not even a USSR language), just bullying without any consideration for actually, the internal laws of the US, the action amounts to international scandal and piracy. They may even issue a QSL card (after all, transmitter sites ID is broadcast, in code). DXers should address themselves to a discussion of jamming as an international illegal aspect of broadcasting.

gh: I think the Soviet jamming is done to prevent the IBA Hebrew broadcasts being heard in the USSR. If it messes up IBA in North America too, that's just too bad....

(Paul Mason, CANDX Personal Profile editor, April) R. Moscow's DX program host, Paul Kuznetsov was kind enough to send me some information about himself. He has been with RM for six years doing a bit of everything, from interviews, to sports reports and political writing. Pavel is 33, married with a four-year old son. He was educated at the Foreign languages College in Moscow. Paul likes music and reading--he has some 300 paperbacks from trips to America. Many Canadians and Soviets share a common love for hockey, Paul being no exception; he roots for the Soviet Army team. Paul even broke his nose once playing hockey! He began writing a DX program in Nov. 1973, leaning heavily twoards ham radio, so last April he set up the RMDX Club to cater for a variety of interests, placing the SWL ahead of all else. In the planning stages are a listener quiz and a club bulletin. Together with RMDXC membership cards, Paul has recently sent out special QSL cards marking the 60th anniversary of the Sovialist Revolution. Paul feels he has a long way to come from becoming a major scoop source on SW. He says there is a lot of room for improvement, and with time, perhaps,"we'll become a stronger voice among DX programs". His chief source of info for the program comes from the staff of the magazine "Radio". A group of Soviet SWLers also provide Paul with up-to-date DX news. Paul welcomes comments, critical or otherwise at: RMDXC, Radio Moscow, Moscow, USSR.

gh: The DX Program has recently expanded and moved to Sats around 2333, Suns 0133, 0333?

V E N E Z U E L A (Mark Basick, CA) Some super Latin music can be heard nightly on Radio Reloj Continente, 5030 kHz. The music is practically uninterrupted and lasts up till sign off at 0500 GMT. In spite of only 10 kW, the signal is outstandingly strong and clear. I've found myself listening to it while doing homework or just relaxing. Best Venezuelan in my book.

Z A Ï R E (Diane S. Lévesque, IL) Despite what Victor G. said, I was under the impression that the station I've been hearing in French on 15350 in the evenings is still Zaïre, which they often mention. It's been playing more pop than "African" music. If there is another station that Vic knows of that has the "Magazine Camera" program on it, then I'll admit I'm wrong--but until then I'll keep believing that Zaïre is NOT off 15350, OK? It's NOT USSR.

I M P O R T A N T N O T E from gh: If this is the only copy of RIB you've seen, be advised that the magazine is more than twice as large alternate months, with "Don't You Believe", Clipping Copy lists, receiver reviews, and lots more opinion on SWL-related topics. There may be some variation in publication schedule this summer, to accomodate my vacation/travel awayness.

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c/o Glenn Hauser
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PURPOSE OF RIB: To provide an open forum for the discussion of programming on shortwave, and secondarily on other media; and the discussion of other topics related to the DXing and SWLing hobbies.

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TIME TO RENEW? If there is a 16 on your address label, this is the last issue of RIB on your present subscription. This is the only notice you will receive. Thanks for your cooperation, and I hope you will enjoy your next year with R I B! (gh)